

that 'all men are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.'

"Little could Mr. Jefferson suspect, when penned that line, that the time would come when the Nation's highest court would rule that a nondenominational prayer to the Creator, if offered by schoolchildren in the public schools of America during class periods, is unconstitutional.

"The June 25 Supreme Court decision is sufficiently appalling to disturb the God-fearing people of America and to make us all reflect upon the extraordinary nature of the times. For what, indeed, can we expect to happen next if this is to be the way things are going? Following the French Revolution, the atheist revolutionists hired a chorus girl to enter a church as the 'Goddess of Reason' and thereby defile the name of the Almighty. Following the Russian Revolution, the Bolshevik Government established a giant museum, dedicated to the promotion of atheistic beliefs."

I've been in that museum. I was sick to the point of nausea, but back to ROBERT BYRD's speech.

"The American people were shocked by both moves. So it was in those days. But what about today? Can it be that we, too, are ready now to embrace the foul conception of atheism?

"It is hard to believe, but, then, what are the facts of the matter? Are we not in consequence of the Supreme Court ruling on schoolroom prayer, actually limited in teaching our children the value of God? And is this not, in fact, a first step on the road to promoting atheistic belief?"

As I turn the page of Mr. BYRD's speech on the Senate floor, let me parenthetically note that ROBERT BYRD's Christian beliefs are what caused him to disavow his membership and to ask forgiveness for his membership to the KKK. It went to the heart and soul of the man, and that is why he came to the floor in 1962 and gave this speech. Continuing on:

"In reading through the Court decision on school prayer, I am astonished by the empty arguments set forth by the majority as opposed to the lucid opinion recorded by Mr. Justice Potter Stewart, the lone dissenter. In answering the arguments of the majority, Justice Stewart did not see fit to engage in debate over matters of ancient history. As he put it:

"What is relevant to the issue here is not the history of an established church in 16th century England or in 18th century America but the history of the religious traditions of our people, reflected in countless practices of the institutions and officials of our government."

"To that, I would say, 'Amen.'"

"So this, indeed, the crux of the issue—the religious traditions of our people.

"Wherever one may go in this great national city, he is constantly re-

mindful of the strong spiritual awareness of our forefathers who wrote the Federal Constitution, who built the schools and churches, who hewed the forests, dredged the rivers and the harbors, fought the savages, and created a republic.

"In no other place in the United States are there so many and such varied official evidences of deep and abiding faith in God on the part of government as there are in Washington.

"Let us speak briefly on some of the reminders in Washington that reaffirm the proposition that our country is founded on religious principles. The continuance of freedom depends on our restoring the same spiritual consciousness to the mainstream of American life today that made possible these monuments and tributes of the past.

"A visitor entering Washington by train sees the words of Christ prominently inscribed above the main arch leading into Union Station. Here at the very entrance to the seat of the Government of the United States are the words: 'The truth shall make you free.' John 8:32.

"Nearby is another inscription cut into enduring stone, the words from the Eighth Psalm of the Old Testament: 'Thou hast put all things under his feet.'

"A third inscription reiterates the spiritual theme: 'Let all the end thou aimest at be thy country's, thy God's and truth's.'

"All three inscriptions acknowledge the dependence of our Republic upon the guiding hand of Almighty God.

"On Capitol Hill.

"Throughout the majestic Capital City, similar inscriptions testify to the religious faith of our forefathers. In the capital, we find prominently displayed for all of us to see the quotation from the Book of Proverbs, 4:7:

"Wisdom is the principal thing: Therefore, get wisdom, and with all thy getting, get understanding."

"The visitor to the Library of Congress may see a quotation from the Old Testament which reminds each American of his responsibility to his Maker. It reads, 'What doth the Lord require of thee but to do justice and love mercy and to walk humbly with God?' Micah 6:8.

"Another scriptural quotation prominently displayed in the lawmakers' library preserves the Psalmist acknowledgment that all nature reflects the order and beauty of the Creator.

"The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament showeth His handiwork.' Psalms 19:1.

"Underneath the statue of history in the Library of Congress are Tennyson's prophetic lines:

"One God, one law, one element, and one far-off divine event to which the whole creation moves."

"Additional proof that American national life is God-centered comes from this Library of Congress inscription: 'The light shineth in the darkness, and the darkness comprehendeth not.' John 1:5.

"On the east hall of the second floor of the Library of Congress, an anonymous inscription assures all Americans that they do not work alone—for a web begun, God sends thread."

I realize that my time is expiring at this moment. There is much, much more in this wonderful speech by the now late Senator ROBERT BYRD, and I will not stop in future sessions here on the floor until I have finished this wonderful speech by ROBERT BYRD.

Though, for tonight, since I believe in playing by the rules, the rules require me to yield back. I do now yield back the balance of my time.

#### SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Ms. KAPTUR) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Ms. SUTTON, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. WOOLSEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. KAPTUR, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SCHIFF, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.

#### SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REFERRED

A concurrent resolution of the Senate of the following title was taken from the Speaker's table, and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. Con. Res. 67. Concurrent resolution celebrating 130 years of United States-Romanian diplomatic relations, congratulating the Romanian people on their achievements as a great nation, and reaffirming the deep bonds of trust and values between the United States and Romania, a trusted and most valued ally; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

#### SENATE ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

The Speaker announced her signature to an enrolled joint resolution of the Senate of the following title:

S.J. Res. 33. Joint resolution to provide for the reconsideration and revision of the proposed constitution of the United States Virgin Islands to correct provisions inconsistent with the Constitution and Federal law.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at midnight), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, July 1, 2010, at 10 a.m.

#### EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows: